Chapter 2: Contents of Computer-Readable Files

Section Summaries:





Each block record has a maximum record length of 51 characters and is comma-delimited. This is the file that needs to be updated with your housing unit counts and returned to the Census Bureau.

The Census Address List File

Each address record has a maximum record length of 244 characters and is comma-delimited. Do **not** correct or return this file to the Census Bureau.

1990 Census Block Housing Unit Summary List File

Each record has a maximum record length of 22 characters and is comma-delimited. This file contains the number of housing units that were recorded in the 1990 census tract and block. Do **not** correct or return this file to the Census Bureau.

Census 2000 Block Housing Unit Summary List File

The primary file provided by the Census Bureau is the Block Housing Unit Summary List file. This file contains the housing unit totals for each block in your jurisdiction. The Block Housing Unit Summary List files is a comma-delimited, ASCII text file. This is the file in which you need to enter the Census 2000 housing unit estimates from your records.

Address List Review 1999 Computer-Readable Census 2000 Block Housing Unit Summary List Format

Maximum Length (characters)	Field Name
11	Participant entity ID code
2	FIPS state code

3	FIPS county code
5	FIPS place code
5	•
4	Census American Indian and Alaska Native area code
1	Trust land indicator
6	Census 2000 collection block number
7	Residential housing unit count for this Census 2000 collection
	block number
7	Local/Tribal residential housing unit count for this census 2000
	collection block number

Example of a Census 2000 Block Housing Unit Summary List Record

PL484365,48,243,74648,93985,,,1309,2,,

Field Definitions

Participant Entity ID Code–Positions 1-11 (length=11 characters)

Definition: A unique code identifying the jurisdiction.

FIPS State Code–Positions 12-13 (length=2 characters)

Definition: A two-digit number identifying a state or statistically equivalent entity of the U.S. For example, "55" is the FIPS state code for Wisconsin.

FIPS County Code–Positions 14-16 (length=3 characters)

Definition: A three-digit number identifying a county or statistically equivalent entity within a state. For example, in Wisconsin "067" is the FIPS state code for Langlade County.

FIPS Place Code–Positions 17-21 (length=5 characters)

Definition: A five-digit number identifying incorporated places. For example, "40775" is the place code for La Crosse, Wisconsin.

FIPS MCD Code–Positions 22-26 (length=5 characters)

Definition: A five-digit number identifying the primary governmental or administrative division of a county. For example, "29025" is the MCD code for Berkeley Township, New Jersey.

Census AIANA Code–Positions 27-30 (length=4 characters)

Definition: A four-digit number identifying active tribal governments. For example, "0110" is the code for Acoma Pueblo.

Trust Land Indicator–Postition 31 (length=1 character)

Definition: A one-character code (T, I, and Blank) to identify off reservation trust lands.

Census 2000 Collection Block Number–Positions 32-37 (length=6 characters)

Definition: A five-digit number (sometimes suffixed) indicating the census block number in which the specified number of addresses is located. This block number matches one of the block numbers printed on the Census Bureau maps.

Residential housing unit count for this Census 2000 collection block-Positions 38-44 (length 7 characters)

Definition: The number of housing units within the specified Census 2000 block number.

Local/Tribal residential housing unit count for this Census 2000 collection block number-Positions 45 –51 (length 7 characters).

Definition: The number of housing units your government believes the Census Bureau **should** have found within the specified Census 2000 block number.

The Census Address List File

Each address record has a maximum length of 244 characters and provides 19 major pieces of information, or "fields." Do not modify any fields. Some fields are reserved for future use and are marked "unused" in this record layout. This Census address list is to be used to match against your address list. From this matching process you should be able to determine your own housing unit estimate for each Census 2000 block.

Address List Review 1999 Computer-Readable Census Address List File Format

Maximum Length (characters)...... Field Name 11..... Participant enti

11	Participant entity ID code
2	FIPS state code
3	FIPS county code
5	FIPS place code
5	FIPS MCD code
4	Census American Indian and Alaska Native area code
1	Trust land indicator
13	Master Address File ID number
6	Census 2000 collection block number
5	Map spot number and suffix
B	Unused field
1	Special place flag
1	Address type flag
10	House number
13	Street name
43	Apartment/Unit designation
60	Location description
20	Mailing address (RR/HCR/PO BOX)
5	Mailing ZIP Code
6	1990 census tract number and suffix
4	1990 census block number and suffix
8	Map spot latitude
9	Map spot longitude
5	Census Bureau codes

Example of an Census Address List Record

PL484365,48,243,74648,93985,,,2345123889075,1309,1,,0,L,,KANSAS AVE,,2 STORY HOUSE ON SW SIDE OF STREET.RR 5 BOX 1,79854,0405,388,30,600360,104.495609,,01001

Field Definitions

Participant Entity ID Code–Positions 1-11 (length=11 characters)

Definition: A unique code identifying the jurisdiction.

FIPS State Code–Positions 12-13 (length=2 characters)

Definition: A two-digit number identifying a state or statistically equivalent entity of the U.S. For example, "55" is the FIPS state code for Wisconsin.

FIPS County Code–Positions 14-16 (length=3 characters)

Definition: A three-digit number identifying a county or statistically equivalent entity within a state. For example, in Wisconsin "067" is the FIPS state code for Langlade County.

FIPS Place Code–Positions 17-21 (length=5 characters)

Definition: A five-digit number identifying incorporated places. For example, "40775" is the place code for La Crosse, Wisconsin.

FIPS MCD Code–Positions 22-26 (length=5 characters)

Definition: A five-digit number identifying the primary governmental or administrative division of a county. For example, "29025" is the MCD code for Berkeley Township, New Jersey.

Census AIANA Code–Positions 27-30 (length=4 characters)

Definition: A four-digit number identifying active tribal governments. For example, "0110" is the code for Acoma Pueblo.

Trust Land Indicator–Postition 31 (length=1 character)

Definition: A one-character code(T, I, and Blank) to identify off-reservation trust lands.

Census Address List ID Number–Positions 32-44 (length=13 characters)

Definition: A unique 13-digit number identifying a specific address in the Census address list.

Census 2000 Collection Block Number–Positions 45-50 (length=6 characters)

Definition: A four or five-digit number (sometimes suffixed) indicating the census block number in which the specified address is located. This block number matches one of the block numbers printed on the Census Bureau maps.

Map Spot Number and Suffix-Positions 51-55 (length =5 characters)

Definition: A number that identifies the location of a housing unit within a Census 2000 block. These numbers were assigned during Address Listing and correspond to the map spot numbers on the Census Bureau maps.

Special Place Flag–Position 57 (length=1 character)

Definition: This field is blank on the file you receive.

Address Type Flag–Position 58 (length=1 character)

Definition: Identifies whether an address is house number and street name or non-city style.

House Number and Suffix–Positions 59-71 (length=13 characters)

Definition: All information about the house number for a house number and street name address (e.g., the "111" in 111 Main Ave) goes in this field.

Street Name–Positions 72-114 (length=43 characters)

Definition: The street name, including street type prefixes and suffixes, plus directional indicators. For example, Main Ave or N Oak St.

Apartment/Unit Designation–Positions 115-127 (length=13 characters)

Definition: The identifier for each separate apartment or other housing unit(s) within a single structure. For example, the "#110" in 8067 Cabot Ct, #110.

Location Description-Positions 128-187 (length=60 characters)

Definition: This is a physical description of the housing unit. For example, "brick house with white shutters and chimney."

Mailing Address (RR/HCR/PO BOX)-Positions 188-207 (length=20 characters)

Definition: This is the address that the USPS uses to deliver the mail, if there is no house number and street name address.

Mailing ZIP Code–Positions 208-212 (length=5 characters)

Definition: All addresses should have a ZIP Code for processing.

1990 Census Tract Number and Suffix–Positions 213-218 (length=6 characters)

Definition: The 1990 census tract number/suffix for this address. This code is composed of a four-digit tract number and may also contain a two-digit tract suffix. Unused spaces are zero filled. Not all addresses have 1990 tract information.

1990 Block Number–Positions 219-222 (length=4 characters)

Definition: The 1990 census block for this address. Unused spaces are zero filled. Not all addresses have 1990 block information available.

Map Spot Latitude-Positions 223-230 (length=8 characters)

Definition: The latitude of the specified map spot.

Map Spot Longitude-Positions 231-239 (length=9 characters)

Definition: The longitude of the specified map spot.

Census Bureau Codes–Positions 240-243 (length=5 characters)

Definition: Census internal-use codes

1990 Census Block Housing Unit Summary List File

This file contains the number of housing units that were reported in 2000 by 1990 census tract and block number. This file is a comma-delimited, ASCII text file. This file is to help you create your Census 2000 block housing unit summary counts; it is not to be updated. Do not return this file to the Census Bureau.

Address List Review 1999 Computer-Readable Census 1990 Block Housing Unit Summary Format

Maximum Length (characters)	Field Name
2	FIPS state code
3	FIPS county code
6	1990 Census tract/BNA number and suffix
4	1990 block number and suffix
7	Residential address count for this 1990 block

Example of a 1990 Census Block Housing Unit Summary Record

10,007,11005,301,0

Field Definitions

FIPS State Code–Positions 1-2 (length=2 characters)

Definition: A two-digit number identifying a state or statistically equivalent entity of the U.S. For example, "55" is the FIPS state code for Wisconsin.

FIPS County Code–Positions 3-5 (length=3 characters)

Definition: A three-digit number identifying a county or statistically equivalent entity within a state. For example, in Wisconsin "067" is the FIPS state code for Langlade County.

1990 Census Tract Number or Block Numbering Area (BNA) Number and Suffix–Positions 6-11 (length=6 characters)

Definition: The 1990 census tract number/suffix for this block. This code is composed of a four-digit basic number and may also contain a two-digit suffix number to identify this Census tract or BNA. Unused spaces are zero filled.

1990 Block Number and Suffix–Positions 12-15 (length=4 characters)

Definition: The 1990 census block number for this block. Unused spaces are zero filled.

Residential housing unit count for this census 2000 collection block-Positions 16-22 (length 7 characters)

Definition: The number of housing units within a Census 2000 block.